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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

FOUO No. 722



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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

OPPOSITION DEMANDS ELECTIONS' CANCELLATION

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 950

[Text] The four unsuccessful candidates in the presidential elections of last 15 March, Messrs Ange Patasse, Henri Maidou, Francois Pehoua, and Abel Goumba, filed a joint complaint on 26 March before the CAR Supreme Court, contesting the election process the outcome of which was that outgoing president David Dacko was elected with 50.23 percent. The Supreme Court has 2 months to render judgment. In the event the election is invalidated, the minister of the interior will have to carry out a new election.

On that same day President Dacko moved the curfew back one hour since order had been restored in Bangui, so the curfew is from now on set from 2000 to 0500. The University of Bangui, which had been closed, should be reopening on 31 March. However, that date coincides with the beginning of Easter vacation.

Official ceremonies on 29 March commemorated the 25th anniversary of the accidental death of Barthelemy Boganda, "father of the Central African nation."

In addition, in an AFT [French Press Agency] interview President Dacko indicated that "if order is restored in the country on a permanent basis, the legislative election will take place in the time period prescribed by law," in mid-June, or 3 months after the presidential election. Dacko stressed that in the event the election can proceed in normal fashion he would lift the state of siege beforehand, and would take the oath of office and form the new government.

Asked about the possibility of his making political overtures towards the opposition, Dacko replied that it was no longer up to him to make the first move, but it was up to his four unsuccessful rivals, Messrs Ange Patasse, François Pehoua, Abel Goumba, and Henri Maidou, to signify their intention of meeting with him.

Dacko stated that if his opponents were to run joint lists of candidates in the legislative election in order to fight against his political grouping, the Central African Democratic Union, he would involve himself "personally in the election campaign," although, he said, he had remained aloof at the time of the presidential campaign.

Coming back to the subject of Bangui's disturbances at the time the presidential election results were announced, disturbances which claimed four victims among the

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demonstrators, Dacko felt that they had been organized by "malcontents" who were refusing to accept the results of the ballotting since they were sure that Dacko had been beaten. Thus, in Bossangoa, Ange Patasse's stronghold, there had been noisy celebrations of his success even before the announcement of the results.

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

OPPOSITION LETTER TO DACKO--Leaders of the Central African opposition recently sent an "open letter" to President David Dacko to protest the "numerous and continual violations of constitutional freedoms" in the Central African Republic. Abdel Goumba (Ubangi Patriotic Front-Labor Party), Henri Maidou (Republican Party for Progress), Ange Felix Patasse (Central African People's Liberation Movement) and Francois Pehoua (independent) denounce the "climate of civil war maintained by militias in the districts, organized on orders from the president of the republic." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1136] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris, 1981] 11,464

GIR ESTABLISHED--Francois Pehoua has formed a new political movement, the Independent Movement for Political, Cultural and Social Reflection (GIR). In its manifesto, the GIR states that its objective is "to ensure respect for human rights and the rights of nations and to do everything possible to promote the Central African rebirth." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1137] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris, 1981] 11,464

THREE FRENCH FINANCING AGREEMENTS--On 11 April in Bangui, France and the Central African Republic signed three financing agreements for a total amount of 800 million CFA francs (16 million French francs). France's aid to Central African involves the continuation of work to open up the southwestern region of the country, one of the most important zones economically. Completion of the program will cost 500 million CFA francs. French aid will also go for research to develop cotton and food crops, whose main aspects include the selection of varieties, the phytosanitary fight and agroeconomic studies, for some 107.5 million CFA francs. The program also concerns an increase in seed and fits within the framework of a vast integrated development project in the savanna, jointly financed by the FAC (Aid and Cooperation Fund), the CCCE (Central Fund for Economic Cooperation), the FED (European Development Fund) and the Federal Republic of Germany. The third agreement signed between France and Central Africa involves repairs of the Barthelemy Boganda Stadium. The cost of the operation will be 180 million CFA francs. Support given by French authorities to the Central African Republic went from 11 billion CFA francs at the end of 1979 to 26 billion CFA francs by December 1980, an increase on the order of 136 percent. France intends to continue its effort in 1981, particularly by emphasizing the relaunching of priority sectors of the national economy, with the opening up of the national territory and the development of agricultural potential being two of the Central African Government's main concerns. In his speech at the ceremony marking the signing of the three agreements,

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French Ambassador to Bangui Jacques Humann emphasized that France "has tried for man many years to lend its support in order, first of all, to help the Central African Republic eliminate obstacles hindering both domestic and international trade and second, aid the rural world increase its production so as to derive the greatest profit." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1137] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris, 1981] 11,464

DISSOLUTION OF RED CROSS—It was learned on 28 March in Bangui that the National Council of the Central African Red Cross was dissolved by order of the minister of health. According to the ministry, its statutes had not been submitted for the approval of the authorities concerned. Let us bear in mind that the chairperson of the Central African Red Cross, Mrs Ruth Rolland, recently found herself mixed up in the controversy surrounding the diamonds offered by Emperor Bokassa to President Giscard d'Estaing. David Dacko, who had acknowledged having received a check for 2 million CFA francs sent by the Elysee to the Central African Red Cross, had stated that there was no more managerial body in that institution. The League of Red Cross Societies, for its part, had indicated on 19 March in Geneva that a special general assembly meeting on 28 February 1981 had dissolved the Central African Red Cross committee while reelecting Mrs Ruth Rolland as its chairperson. Mrs Ruth Rolland had supported Francois Pehoua's candidacy during the election campaign.

[Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 951] COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris 1981] 9631

UWAITI LOAN--The Kuwaiti Development Fund has just granted the Central African depublic a loan of 420,000 Islamic dinars (or around \$1.55 million) for financing road work. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 951] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris 1981] 9631

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CHAD

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN SOUTH

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Apr 81 pp 1167-1171

[Article by Francois Gaulme: "The Chad That Wants to Survive"]

[Text] The civil war has left Chad without a capital since 1979, at least to the extent that this capital is without essential services and partially destroyed. The civil service and the state have disappeared throughout the North. To put an end to this situation, several African initiatives have just been taken. At the same time, the president of the GUNT (Transitional National Union Government), Mr Goukouni Oueddei, has embarked on tours of the provinces, both in order to get to know his country and to impose his authority on it. But the reopening of the Central Bank, which has kept 12 billion CFA in its coffers, is still awaited. Government employees are not yet being paid, and Ndjamena airport is not reopened to civilian traffic. In official circles, it is believed that all this will soon be rectified, especially with help from Libya or organizations such as the World Bank. Meanwhile, political divergences persist, and sporadic fighting is reported to continue in the Northeast.

The South is the only part of the country that has escaped the war. It is still producing, and its factories are running. One finds many refugees there, including about 10,000 of the 12,000 Chadian government employees. It wants to survive, and its attempt to adhere to economic and political order is an unprecedented experiment. This is not preparation for a secession, because the southern cadres, understanding its dangers, do not want it. It is a spontaneous reaction, a refusal to let this Republic of Chad that was created 20 years ago die--by at least saving what can be saved.

The extraordinary nature of this situation comes from the fact that the agents of a headless state--unpaid for the last 2 years--and an economy that has lost its banks, several trade routes, and a part of its market, are nevertheless managing to surmount such problems. This tenacity certainly deserves praise, but more especially explanation and analysis of the attachment, shown by the African cadres and the European technical advisers who support them, to a particular model of economic and political development.

I - The "Events" and their Consequences

We know that we must distinguish between two different battles of Ndjamena, the one in 1979 between the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) and the Northern Armed Forces

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(FAN) of Hissein Habre, and the other in 1980, following the signature of the Lagos accords, between government coalition troops and the troops of the head of the FAN, the minister turned rebel. What in the South are called "the events" consist of that series of tragedies which since 1979 have given birth to the present reorganization: the flight of the southerners from Ndjamena, the massacre of the Muslims in the South in reprisal for the summary execution of the southern cadres in the North, and Hissein Habre's abortive attempt to invade the South.

Little by little, a new political order came into being around an administration that survived, though it had lost its nerve centers. That reorganization involved Mayo-Kebbi, the Tandjile, the two Logonis, and the Moyen-Chari, in other words, roughly speaking, Chad's cotton zone, the area where agricultural resources are most diversified and most abundant.

This grouping has sometimes been termed "tribalist." In reality, the people of this zone have nothing in common but partial Christianization of rather recent vintage and a preference for French over Arabic as a linguistic vehicle: the Ngambaye of the Logone refuse to be assimilated to the Sara of Chari, despite their affinities. They are quite different from the Massa and the other peoples of the Mayo-Kebbi. The South, which is distinguished from the North by high demographic density, and which has nearly 2 million inhabitants, remains a mosaic of ethnic groups with fluctuating contours established in a region where subsistence levels are fairly comfortable.

Following the Lagos accords, in August 1979, Co1 Kamougue became the leader of the southern cause. He became the president of the 25-member Permanent Committee created on 10 May 1979 at a meeting of cadres in Moundou, before being named the vice-president of the GUNT in Ndjamena.

Relations between the political-administrative organization in the South and the transition government in the Chadian capital are difficult to understand at first encounter. The GUNT, intended by terms of the Lagos accords which created it to last for only a limited period, includes all the factions that were signatory to the protocol, except for the FAN and their allies who were excluded from it by the council of ministers. Nevertheless, the insecurity in the capital and the absence of any return to normalcy have worked to give that faction the real power in some of the regions. The unique achievement of the South is not its merely theoretical submission to a coalition government in which it is represented, but the preservation of an internal political order that does not grant exclusive power either to the military or to the more or less organized combatants.

The vice-president of the Permanent Committee whose headquarters are at Moundou is Lt Col Roasngar, who led the final assault against the FAN in Ndiamena. But the secretary general of that body is a civilian, Mr Alingue, who was Ambassador to Paris up to 1979. The deputy secretary general is the director of the Cotton Fund, Mr Mbogo. Within the committee, various members are responsible for particular areas: the economy (Mr Reoulengar), finances (Mr Madengar Beremadji), external relations (Mr Mbailemdana). These individuals should not be confused with the southern ministers in the Ndjamena government, such as Mr Naimbaye who is responsible for the ministry of agriculture, and who struggle against natural calamities. They should also not be confused with members of the FAT. This

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acronym has taken on an ambivalent meaning: properly speaking, it designates only the regular Chadian armed forces, who have fallen back from Ndjamena to Moundou (the police), Sarh (ANT) [Chadian National Army] and Bongor (National Guard). But it has become a synonym for "southern." In reality, there are only two soldiers—the president and the vice—president—on the Permanent Committee in Moundou. Its creation expresses nothing but a regional consensus resting on the notion of supporting the armed forces in the demilitarized zone allocated to the FAT as part of the Lagos accords.

Various local bodies are also being asked to undertake the work of "sensitizing the people" of the South: every prefecture has its political committee, under which there are the political sub-committees in the sub-prefectures.

This organization, which mitigates the impotence of the central government, has not effaced the administrative divisions. Prefects, sub-prefects, heads of administrative posts, heads of cantons (in the rural zones) and quarters (in the towns) are still in place throughout the South. They are theoretically under the authority of Ndjamena, but are in reality responsible to Moundou, and they are all pro-southern. Some prefects were named after the "events." Respect for internal regional balance has been shown by not naming prefects to head prefectures in their own locality. The judicial system has also remained in place. The judges are in theory responsible to the Court of Appeals in Ndjamena, which is not functioning. A member of the Permanent Committee, responsible for justice, is actually in control. Financial services (the treasury) have been kept in operation in the FAT zone, as well as tax collection and customs. Thanks to the taxes paid in by companies, a local budget of 5 billion CFA for a 7-month period was established in 1980. No budget has been established, since the government is now in place in Ndjamena and fighting has ceased, for 1981, but tax collections have recovered in the South. While waiting for a national budget, an estimate based on a 6-month period from the 1980 local budget, adjusted for inflation, continues in effect.

These resources are not enough to take care of all the administrative needs of the zone. Because of the disorganization of monetary flows, revenues are not normal and are only sufficient to provide for the support of the FAT and periodic payments to veterans. Discussions entered into between the Permanent Committee and the Bank of Circulation in Chad have not borne fruit. This situation obviously leads to discontent among the employees, who are on the job without getting any wages. Recently, unpaid teachers have shut down what remained of the Moundou school system. The retired "cadres" who are working in administration and politics in the South do so almost out of charity. The scantiness of resources obviously gives rise to jealousies and a reversal of the previous situation: today the employees in the private sector, the domestics, even the peasants, dispose of more income than most government employees.

In this situation, the recent disbursement by the French paymaster of the pay owed to 7,000 former soldiers and the sales from the last cotton season have given the South a rare infusion of money. One sees refugees from Ndjamena who have become peasants or merchants. While the families who have stayed home may have welcomed these refugees in the early months of their sojourn and provided them with support out of respect for the traditional rules of hospitality, it is no

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longer being done cheerfully. So everyone who does not have an assured income is striving frantically to make up for the lack. This is why the villages of the South have seen a proliferation of retailers, more and more bars, and an increase in the sale of home-made, unlicensed alcoholic beverages.

Sarh and Moundou are more active than ever, with the increase in the already swollen population of refugees. Local radio stations, newspapers (PULA at Sarh, which disappeared, and LE BOUCLIER in Moundou, which has been appearing since July 1980) have been started since "the events." The influx of college-educated people into Moundou in 1980 even led to the organization of a literary competition. Two meetings of baccalaureates were organized by the Jesuit Fathers at Sarh, in December 1979 and December 1980. At the second meeting, 1,200 candidates coming from the entire southern zone went before a jury composed of three French academics. The success rate varied between 35 and 60 percent in the various series. In contrast to the widespread image, the urban population in the South is quite varied. Moundou is currently witnessing the return of the people from Baguirmi and Kotokos who had fled the South in 1979. The Muslim businessmen, especially the Nigerians, are still there. In addition to the passoral Peuls Bororo people, who have continued all along to camp on the banks of the Logone, other itinerant livestock growers have come. At Sarh, the Arab merchants of neighboring Salamat are occupying many of the market stalls. Yemeni and Syrian merchants have also remained, despite the extreme tension of the last 2 years, which is now diminished.

The easy availability of oil supplies from Nigeria (tank trucks return loaded with Chadian millet on their superstructures), the abundance of foodstuffs on the market (thanks to a great deal of market-gardening and a good cereal grain harvest), the liveliness of the towns, which still have restaurants, cinema houses, night spots, and the liveliness of the countryside, where the harnessed plow and the use of cattle-drawn carts have come into wide use over the last 20 years, along with the raising of big stock animals, give the South an air of vitality and especially of economic and social dynamism, despite the difficulties brought about by the war.

Activities are not limited to individual or family agriculture and small commerce. In fact the dominant activity is industrial in an area that remains a special preserve for cotton, despite recent attempts to diversify the economy.

II - Agricultural and Industrial Record

Cotton has been cultivated intensively in Chad since 1929. This cultivation, imposed by the colonial administration, was unpopular at the beginning. The system that was adopted turned into a disguised tax system which reinforced the privileges of the chiefs. This is why the political agitation in southern Chad before independence came from the discontent engendered by the obligation to grow cotton.

Today, the situation has changed and "production riented" cotton growing, that is, using fertilizers and insecticides, has become lucrative for the peasant. We have seen in the last 2 years that when it became impossible, for financial reasons, to continue this mode of cultivation and farmers were asked to go back to "traditional" methods of cultivation, without themicals or equipment, and to much

smaller yields: then people grew food crops, which were much more lucrative, rather than cotton.

Chad's cotton statistics show that since the "events," production--confined now to the South--has significantly declined: during the 1979-1980 season, only 90,839 tons of cottonseed was marketed. The season now nearing completion should end up with the purchase of 82,721 tons of cottonseed when the last markets close down at the end of April.

This is a considerable decline compared to the record production year of 1975-1976: Chad at that time produced 174,062 tons of cottonseed, and production from the two Logones and the Tandjile alone was greater than the entire 1979-1980 yield. But the decline had already been noted before the "events": it had fallen to 125,370 tons in 1976-1977, before climbing back to 136,725 tons in 1978-1979.

These facts are explained by the decline in the area under cultivation, while yields remained stable (on the order of 500 kg per hectare): in 1978-1979, 271,352 hectares were planted in cotton in Chad. The following season, there was a 30 percent decline: 188,067 hectares of cotton, of which 100,270 were "production-oriented and 87,797 under traditional cultivation. The cotton area declined again in 1980-1981: 166,115 hectares (down 12 percent), of which more than 60 percent was "production-oriented" (70,969 hectares).

The situation became most critical in Mayo-Kebbi, hit by an attempted FAN invasion and by an anti-cotton campaign, in 1979: in the 1979-1980 season only 30 percent of the area normally cultivated was seeded. This is why production from that prefecture, which had been 47,005 tons in 1975-1976, was down to 14,774 tons that season. But this year production went up in Mayo-Kebbi, which had over time become the best cotton-producing zone in Chad. Factory activity in Bongor, Fianga, and Gaya resumed in 1980-1981. Cottonseed purchases by the three factories and by those at Lere and Pala, which never ceased running, should amount to 20,066 tons. This recovery is the only one seen in Chad in the season currently ending.

The cotton problems are only indirectly linked to the war. If the increase in the price to the producer has not kept pace with the average increase in the cost of living (a notion, by the way, which is rather hazy for a peasant who lives partially from what he produces himself), the introduction of "production-oriented" cultivation, starting in 1965 in Mayo-Kebbi, little by little transformed the rural life of the South and won acceptance for an activity that had once been imposed by force. In a little more than 10 years the life of the peasants has changed radically: now they farm with harnessed teams, with a plough, which has largely replaced the hoe. So they have also become raisers of livestock, and their cattle, fed cottonseed largely, are fatter and stronger (300 to 400~kg) than those of the traditional stock-raisers (200 kg). This change is more tangible in the Logones than in Mayo-Kebbi, but what has become universal is the refusal to grow cotton anymore without insecticides or fertilizers. The yield from a hectare under traditional cultivation is, depending on the quality of the soil, from 300 to 500 kg. One might get as much as a metric ton per hectare, or even more, depending on the extent of crop protection efforts. The cotton grower needs to invest 8,000 CFA per hectare for chemicals and equipment. With productivity between 900 and 1,000 kg, his return will be 40,000 CFA per hectare. This is what makes possible the profits that have won over the rural people to cotton growing.

This system obviously cannot work without the help of organizations providing technical assistance, in accordance with a social policy established by the state. The disappearance of the latter's central elements has not, fortunately, entailed that of the ONDR (National Office for Rural Development) or the state-owned company for marketing and transporting cotton, COTONTCHAD1, whose continued activity, because of its importance in the local economy, has kept the South alive.

Chad's agriculture minister, Mr Naimbaye, considers the ONDR role "very important" in an integrated rural development [plan] aiming at the encouragement of both food and cash crops. The office is still being assisted by seven French advisers, seconded from the CFDT (French Textile Fiber Development Company). This parastatal company provides technical assistance in cotton-growing programs in francophone Africa, and the well-known role it plays has long been highly valued. COTONTCHAD, CFDT, ONDR, and France's IRCT (Institute for Research on Cotton and Exotic Textiles) located in Bededjia (Eastern Logone) work closely together.

Food crops, we have shown, have since 1979 taken over areas formerly devoted to cotton. For the 1980-1981 season, 150,000 hectares have been planted in small millet (penicillaire [a type of African millet], 45,600 in rice, 172,000 in ground-nuts, 445,000 in sorghum, 32,000 in sesame, and 23,000 in berbery (large millet), according to surveys made by ONDR throughout the South. During the previous season, only 718,000 hectares were given over to food crops, and the production of ground-nuts was especially poor. Special efforts to foster rice and ground-nuts are being made by the office, though agricultural organization is still centered on rice.

For the 1981-1982 season, it is already projected that 75,000 hectares will be treated for "production-oriented" cotton, or in other words basically the same surface area as was cultivated in the season now ending. ONDR is going to try to concentrate its technical assistance and, by concentrating its resources, to obtain yields of 950 kg per hectare. Nevertheless, it must be stressed that the Chadian peasant remains under-assisted: during the last agricultural year in which political conditions were relatively normal, 1977-1978, there was on average one agent for each 1,024 hectares of food crops and 354 hectares of cotton (including 155 hectares "production-oriented"). On the other hand, the surface area for which each of the 1,150 ONDR agents is responsible varies greatly and can be anywhere from 1 to 30 hectares.

The advancement of cotton cultivation will depend, above all, on the financial resources available. In early April, representatives of the EDF (European Development Fund) went to Moundou to meet with Chadian officials. The talks focused on Fund assistance in cotton cultivation. The EDF in effect supplies close to 50 percent of the capital needed for the purchase of the agricultural irputs for the "production-oriented" fields. It is the Cotton Fund, sustained by COTONTCHAD's profits, that bears the cost of the inputs. But the assistance received by the larger enterprise from EDF III and EDF IV continued to drop. Now the Fund is without financial means and owes 5 billion CFA to COTONTCHAD for fertilizer purchases. The inputs needed for the 1981-1982 season have already been purchased, for it had to be done before the rainy season. But COTONTCHAD, whose indebtedness is also growing, must start planning now for the upcoming season. EEC aid to Chad under EDF V has not yet been set, because of the political situation, so

the Moundou consultations were aimed at examining the needs. It is hoped that eventually Europe will provide enough assistance to put 120,000 hectares of cotton into "high production." Also, with the agreement of the Ndjamena government it would be possible to disburse the funds reserved for projects financed by the EDF but not completed because of the war, involving purchases of fertilizer and insecticides to sustain a crop which is being jeopardized more and more with every passing day by the lack of funds.

According to COTONTCHAD's financial division, 160,000 tons of cottonseed per year are required if the company is to make a profit as it was formerly organized, with headquarters in Ndjamena and installations outside the South. If operating expenses were not augmented by present constraints, the company's pullback to five prefectures would make it possible to turn a profit with only 100,000 tons of cottonseed per year. But for the moment COTONTCHAD is operating at a loss, and for its cash flow it must depend, in absence of banks, on advances from CFDT, which gives it 80 percent of the value of the cotton marketed as soon as it reaches Cameroon or the Central African Republic.

The civil war is demonstrably very prejudicial to COTONTCHAD, whose economic importance can be judged by recalling that cotton has in the past accounted for as much as 80 percent of the value of Chad's exports. The company has lost its employees with the destruction of its new headquarters in Ndjamena. Its archives have disappeared. It had to build new marketing patterns. Above all, the ambitious projects it had conceived during the euphoria of the record harvests, around 1975, were put to rest at the time of the "events" and remain in doubt today.

Thus the oil-works at Moundou, built as part of an investment program on the order of 5 billion CFA and inaugurated in 1978, is only producing at 40 percent of capacity. Even this level represents a recovery, for production figures for 1979-1980 only amounted to 1,423 tons of crude cotton oil and 960 tons of crude ground-nut oil, while for the fiscal year that began on 1 November of the previous year, 1,930 tons of ground-nut oil and 1,900 tons of crude cotton oil had been produced by 1 April. The factory markets its production in bottles that are presently acquired from neighboring countries. The sale of oil in barrels appears to be slowing down. Problems of distributing the products have not impeded progress on a second industrial phase in April of the soap-works. The soap works should produce 100 tons of household soap per month, destined first of all for the local market.

Cotton-milling activity, which employs around 600 persons (including 37 expatriates) at COTONTCHAD on a permanent basis, but which also provides seasonal employment, not to mention the activities of the peasants, has also resulted in the creation of a textile industry. STT (Chad Textile Company)², established at Sarh in 1967 and employing 600 people (including 19 expatriates) spins, weaves, and prints using very modern techniques and equipment. It uses an average of 1,100 to 1,200 tons of Chadian cotton per year (1,058 tons in 1980). The political situation in 1979 also had consequences here on production, which, however, became somewhat normalized in 1980, when 15 million meters of fabric was marketed compared to 11.7 million the previous year and more than 17 million in 1978. STT's 1980 turnover (4.33 billion CFA) is close to normal, but since 1979, and for the first time, the company has suffered losses because of the higher costs of the

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products it requires and the increases in the cost of transport and fuel due to the war and the closing of the Ndjamena and northern Chad markets. It tried to gain new markets in Cameroon (where it presently has to sell at a loss because of the competition) and especially in the Central African Republic. An agreement between Chad and the Central African Republic was just signed for the sale of STT printed fabric, providing tariff advantages similar to those enjoyed by products coming from UDEAC [Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa], from which Chad withdrew and which it would like to rejoin.

It can be seen that similar causes produce similar effects, and that STT, like COTONTCHAD, continues its activities and has not laid off its personnel, but is experiencing financial problems despite keeping up the production level. The Sarh factory had a visit from President Goukouni during his recent tour of the South. Official assistance would be necessary to undo the damage caused by the "events," which clipped the wings of a model industrial concern.

In 1979, when the first battle of Ndjamena exploded, southern Chad with the cotton sector of its economy already developed, was preparing to undertake a very broad agro-industrial project with the creation in Moyen-Chari of some entirely new sugar activity. SONASUT (National Sugar Company of Chad)³ has 6,000 hectares of sugar fields and a factory at Banda, some 20 km north of Sarh, representing an investment of 15 billion CFA.

The origins of this enterprise go back to 1966, when studies were made of the possibility of growing sugar cane in irrigated fields in the South. SOSUTCHAD had since 1964 had an agglomerating plant in Ndjamena. With a capacity of 28,000 tons per year, it was using imported powderer sugar as raw material. Northern Chad, like all Muslim countries, is a big sugar consumer.

The Banda project, carried out by SOSUCHARI (Chari Sugar Research Company), which later on was to merge with SOSUTCHAD to create SONASUT, was based on an estimated need for 30,000 tons of granulated sugar of which 18,000 tons would be shipped to the Ndjamena agglomeration plant, 5,000 tons would go to Chadian industries, and 7,000 tons would be retailed in the South. Events overturned the initial plans. In 1979-1980, despite the political situation, 4,400 tons of sugar were produced. The 1979-1980 season, which began in January instead of November because of credit problems, was a success, as 12,005 tons of granulated sugar were obtained, with a profit of 8.79 percent. In 1980-1981, 2,966 hectares of cane were cut and predictions are for 30,000 tons of sugar in 1984, starting from 300,000 tons of cane.

SONASUT employs close to 800 people (including 30 expatriates) in the off season, and close to 2,000 during the sugar season. Its results would be much better without the war, and like other Chadian enterprises it has had to adapt to survive. The cash flow problems were resolved in 1980-1981 with the help of SOMDIAA [expansion unknown] in place of the bank credits obtained during the preceding season. With the loss of the northern markets, the company pulled back to the South (though its headquarters still remained in Ndjamena), and it has been constrained to direct its production toward the Central African Republic. A contract for the delivery of 300 tons of sugar per month has been signed. But in Banda it is anticipated that the needs of the Ndjamena agglemenation plant, which will have to be

rehabilitated, will lead to a cancellation of the Central African contract, given current production levels. The financial health of the enterprise could only be assured by an injection of 3.7 billion CFA. President Goukouni, like all visitors, was impressed by the Banda installations. In normal times, Chad's sugar production is lucrative, and the costs of the investments have not been excessive. Once again a remarkable economic instrument is threatened by the political situation.

Industrial production in southern Chad is not confined to fields that derive directly from agricultural activities. The Logone Breweries⁴, whose headquarters and plant are in Moundou, are still producing "Gala" beer, whose flavor deserves its renown. In 1977, the brewery, the only one in Chad, produced 150,000 half-liters of beer per year. Production fell back to 85,000 half-liters in the last fiscal year, but the company, which employes 160 people (including four expatriates) remains for the moment on a sound financial footing. Nevertheless, it too has been affected by the crisis: its archives in Ndjamena have been lost, and, most importantly, the new brewery built in 1978 in the capital city is not in operational condition, though its installations are still intact. It will be necessary to put this unit back into good condition, rebuild its pillaged reserves, resume the payments to suppliers that were never completed.

MCT (Chad Cigarette Manufacturing)⁵, also established at Moundou, is doubtless the hardest hit survivor of the current situation: in 1980 it produced barely 50 percent of capacity with 9 million packs of brown and 90,000 packs of blonde cigarettes. The latter production, basically destined for the northern market, has fallen off considerably, for it has not been successful in the South. The factory works in effect on an "as needed" basis, the pace of production varying greatly. Built 10 years ago and employing 75 people (including three expatriates), MCT has a grim future as things stand now. Established to supply a national market, it cannot go beyond the border because of competition and is most seriously suffering from the restriction of its markets, since northern Chad is almost as populous as the South.

In another field, SIVIT (Meat Industries Company of Chad) in Sarh has survived after a fashion and recently supplied the army with hand-made shoes. This enterprise is the modest heir to a great plan for slaughterhouses and auxiliary industries that was launched long ago by President Tombalbaye but did not succeed. BCMC (Carbonated Beverages of Moyen-Chari), also in Sarh, continues its activities, which remain on a limited scale. As for CYCLOTCHAD in Moundou, a bicycle assembly plant affiliated with Peugeot, it has disappeared. This bird's-eye view of Chadian industry, confined to the South since the events, concludes with a mention of the Catholic mission printing house in Moundou which has also never quit running.

III - The Impasse and the Issues

One feels a certain sadness upon looking over the economic situation in southern Chad. Certainly, with regard for Africa as a whole, this country, whose economic activity was rather limited even before the civil war, is of negligible significance in terms of the continental balance, and is not much of a prize, except for the mineral resources in the extreme North and the oil prospecting which had to be interrupted but which had shown positive results in the environs of the Lake and,

later, in the Logones and Moyen-Chari. However, on a local scale, Chad--with its resources, its people, its work, and the quality of its production--cannot leave one indifferent.

Now enterprises may survive, by dint of umbelievable efforts, without any political solution, without any overall resolution of the Chadian problem, but it is hard to see how they are going to keep from running out of breath. The case of COTONTCHAD is revealing: the most disturbing fact is not that only 20 of its 22 factories are still in operation. On the contrary, two factories started up again during the just-finished cotton season. The cause of the problems, we have emphasized, is financial. During a normal season, a banking consortium headed by BTCD (Chadian Credit and Deposit Bank) and including BICIT (International Commerce and Industry Bank of Chad, affiliated with the BNP [National Bank of Paris]) and the BIAO [International Bank for West Africa], supplied the credit needed for purchasing cotton from the peasants, at 50 CFA per kilo of selected white cotton and 30 CFA for yellow unsorted cotton. For the 1980-1981 season, 4.5 billion CFA in credits were anticipated. Financial help from CFDT finally provided 4.2 billion, in the absence of any bank possibilities. Chad's future, both in the South and elsewhere, is thus tied to a resumption of banking activity, in other words, to the reopening of the Central Bank, for no institution will take the risk of opening branches in a territory where the institution issuing currency is in default.

So any solution depends on Ndjamena. President Coukouni's visit to the South, Hissein Habre's fade-out from the scene, even if he appears not to accept his defeat, have brought the South hopes for pacification and a gradual return to normalcy. A national meeting of Chadian cadres is scheduled in the capital. Fears persist here, though, for while the southerners in 1979 had clear positions, the same cannot be said for their interlocutors, who are also divided. The southern officials who all lost their houses as well as their personal belongings in Ndjamena, are doubtless not prepared to return there without guarantees. The Libyan danger has not disappeared, and while the visit of the GUNT president may have been marked by a certain euphoria and by official promises, it also gave rise, it is said, to attempts at corruption, to the distribution of envelopes of money in a country where money is rare. These facts are disturbing. It would be a serious matter if certain people in Ndjamena were to imagine they could contrive one way or another to subdue people who, while fighting to safeguard their identity, are also defending what remains of Chad's economic achievements and thereby defending interests which France cannot ignore.

Chad, doubtless, will not recover without massive international assistance. But a former colonial power, more than any other nation, is in a position to present the case in the international arena, for a state that cannot get by lithout support, as was seen recently in the role played by Great Britain in Zimbabwe.

France has not abandoned Chad, as it still keeps a consul in Moundou, a few aid personnel in the South, and the cooperation mission has kept its link with Kousseri and Ndjamena. Nevertheless, the French position has disappointed the southerners, who thought the loyalty of the former colonial power would be equal to their own and who did not understand the publicity given over the airwaves to Hissein Habre, the man who they believed would be reconciliation and

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who revived the civil war. The French who work in the South are themselves suffering from isolation and a certain indifference: there is no French doctor at Sahr, a town of 50,000 inhabitants which is the seat of a prefecture that shelters 5,000 government employees. The expatriates still have painful memories of the time in 1980 when an anti-French campaign placed them in a difficult position. Both groups are waiting for Paris to act, and even Libya's most faithful friends would like to see French intervention to help Chad.

Gradually, many people have come to consider that the credibility of France's Africa policy was at stake in its position on the conflict in Chad. It is still, however, dangerous to remain immobile in a moving world. It is to be vulnerable as well as to forget one's interests, even indirect ones. Without the help of French partners who have not hesitated to take chances, the entire Chadian economy may founder. Any war costs dearly. One might certainly criticize Chad, a poor country, for plunging itself into the affair. But one should also officially express the will to help it: prolongation of the slow and painful agony of the Republic of Chad would bring only horror, distress, and reproach to those who have tolerated it.

FOOTNOTES

- 1. COTONTCHAD, created in 1971 with a capital of 600 million CFA, was the successor of COTONFRAN. It is currently capitalized at 2.5 billion CFA. It is 75 percent owned by the state of Chad, 17 percent by CFDT, and 5 percent by the CCCF (Central Fund for Economic Cooperation). Several banks (BICIT, BTCD, BIAO) hold the remainder. COTONTCHAD's president is Mr Kolingar.
- 2. STT's capital of 600 million CFA is divided in the following way: UNIFORTEX (France) 35 percent; DEG (FRG) 35 percent; the state of Chad 22 percent; SNI (Cameroon) 8 percent. STT's president is Mr Kolingar.
- 3. SONASUT, created in 1977, has a capital of 4.7 billion CFA, 83 percent of which is held by the state of Chad, 12 percent SOMDIAA (the Grands Moulins de Paris group) and the remainder by various shareholders. The president of SONASUT is Mr Gakoutou.
- 4. Logone Breweries has a capital of 800 million CFA, divided between UAC (Unilever) 78 percent; SOFIM 11.7 percent; and Heineken (technical partner) 9.4 percent. The president of this company is Mr Lucien Cheurkin.
- 5. MCT has a capital of 288 million CFA, 20 percent of which is held by the state of Chad, with participation by Job and Bastos.

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CHAD

SITUATION IN NDJAMENA FAR FROM RESTORED TO NORMAL

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1136

[Text] A recent AFP dispatch describes the situation in Ndjamena, which is far from being restored to normal.

According to the dispatch, the Government Palace buildings which were shelled, fired upon and subjected to vandalism are being restored and the ministries have been set up in temporary buildings so that the Chadian Government might get off to a new start.

The Libyan Embassy and Cultural Center and the Chadian-Libyan Bank, seriously hit by the fighting, have been repaired since February.

Towever, "everything else remains to be done." The commercial district is dead. The facades of the buildings, marked by shellfire, conceal lifeless apartments and empty stores.

There are practically no private cars. Some 30 taxis are assailed by potential passengers. There is no water or electricity, except for that supplied by a few generators.

The Chadian Hotel is the only one to have opened, but it has no running water.

"Everything has to be done at the same time," Chadian officials told the AFP. They estimate that some 620 million French francs (31 billion CFA francs) will be needed to get the country's economy on its feet and revive the capital.

A ferry boat is needed. The one now operating on the Chari River between Ndjamena and Kousseri (Cameroon), whence basic products come, is very inadequate. An airport, telecommunications and a banking system are needed. Chadian leaders base their hoped on bilateral aid and hope that UNDP aid -- a mission made an on-the-spot evaluation of Chad's needs -- will soon be operational.

Libya has made 60 million French francs available to the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) for administrative equipment, plus 4 million for agriculture and livestock raising and 140 million for civilian government employees, equivalent to 6 months salaries. The Chadian officials have also appealed for technical and financial assistance from France.

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The imminent reopening of the Bank of Central African States (BEAC) could incite entrepreneurs and businessmen to return to Ndjamena. Throughout the war, it kept 14 billion CFA francs in its coffers.

Reactivation of the airport is being studied by technicians who have stated that they were always under the vigilant watch of Libyan soldiers.

The AFP emphasizes that one does not see Libyan soldiers in the capital of Chad, where the lack of security is still real after 2200 hours. Some 8,000 refugees are still in Cameroon and only their return will signal the veritable normalization of Ndjamena.

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CHAD

BRIEFS

LIBYAN TROOP DEPARTURE -- In the presence of Goukouni Weddeye, president of Chad's Transition Government of National Union (GUNT), and of Libyan officers, a contingent of about 200 Libyan soldiers stationed at the N'Djamena Airport flew off to Libya on 26 March. AFP [French Press Agency] also indicated that the withdrawal of Libyan troops stationed in Abeche would be considered. In a statement made on the occasion of this Libyan force withdrawal, which he characterized as gradual, Goukouni Weddeye, president of the GUNT, asserted that the departure "would cut short the secret plotting of our detractors." While refusing to fix a time period for a total withdrawal of Libyan soldiers from Chad, the GUNT president stated that in case of need Chad will still be needing help from Libya. However, he stated to the press that the total withdrawal of Libyans will be considered as soon as security and peace are guaranteed in the country, that is to say, as soon as the integrated Chadian Mational Army is formed. On another matter, 150 prisoners of war belonging to the FAT (Chadian Armed Forces) returned to their home province in the south in accordance with the decision made by the president of the GUNT right after the tour he just made in the south, as per the promises he had made to the inhabitants of that region (27 March 1981 issue of MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS, page 846). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 951] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris 1981] 9631

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CONGO

BRIEFS

LINA CONGO REORGANIZATION -- On page 847 of our 27 March 1981 issue we came out with the news that the government of the People's Republic of the Congo had decided to give the Company for the Development of Air Transport in Africa (SODETRAF) the job of carrying out planning for overhauling the LINA CONGO company. Let us more specifically state that by the terms of an agreement signed 14 March, SODETRAF will put a team of seven experts at the disposal of LINA CONGO. The team's cost (pay, travel, vacation, benefits, etc.), estimated at 2 million French francs per year (100 million CFA francs), will be borne by the French Ministry of Cooperation. Vehicles and additional facilities for housing will be paid by the French Government (cost: 460,000 French francs, or 23 million CFA francs) which will also cover the costs of inflight supervision of LINA CONGO pilots and the expenses connected with that (total cost estimated at 110,000 French francs, or 5.5 million CFA francs). Advanced training activities estimated at 1 million French francs (or 50 million CFA francs) are also anticipated as well as certain operational items (aviation code, maps, etc,) estimated at 250,000 French francs (12.5 million CFA francs). Thus, the total cost for one year of this interventionary activity will be about 200 million CFA francs (100 million for technical assistance and 100 million for various items). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 952] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris 1981] 9631

DISCOVERY OF GAS--ELF [Gasoline and Lubricants Company of France]-Congo has just discovered a gas deposit 15 kilometers off the coast of the Congo in the Pointe Noire deep water sector, according to an ELF-Aquitaine bulletin published on 9 April in Paris. Two tests made at the end of the Litchendjili Marine No 2 drilling at around 2,300 meters depth resulted in a flow of some 250,000 cubic meters per day and a production of gasoline a little under 100 cubic meters per day. The research permit for the sector where the drilling was done is held by ELF-Congo (operator) (65 percent) and the Italian Petroleum Enterprise (AGIP) (35 percent). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1138] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris, 1981] 11,464

LINA-CONGO INTERNAL MONOPOLY--The airline company Aero-Service, established in the Congo, will now become the partner of the national airline company LINA-Congo, according to the minutes of the 2 April Cabinet meeting presided over by Col Denis Sassou Nguesso, chief of state. The Cabinet also decided to grant LINA-Congo a monopoly over internal traffic within the Congolese territory. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1138] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris, 1981] 11,464

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FRENCH TUGBOAT--A tugboat, the "Hinda," destined for the Pointe Noire port, was launched at the English Channel Shipyards in Saint-Malo on 31 March. Mrs Nonault, wife of the Congolese ambassador to France, christened the vessel. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1138] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris, 1981] 11,464

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KENYA

BRIEFS

BELGIAN, SWEDISH AID—Following the \$31.4-million credit granted by the International Development Association (IDA) for the training of elementary and secondary school administrative and technical personnel (MARCHES, 27 March, p 849), Kenya has now been promised a grant worth 31 million shillings (some \$4 million) by Belgium for the development of laticiferous crops in the country's arid and semi-arid regions. An agreement was made at the time of Belgian Minister of Cooperation Coene's visit to Nairobi (MARCHES, 27 March). Finally, on 2 April, Sweden promised to grant Kenya some \$250 million in aid to help rural development. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1140] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris, 1981] 11,464

FRG ECONOMIC RELATIONS—The Kenyan Parliament has been asked to approve a West German loan for 600 million shillings, guaranteed by the government, on behalf of the Industrial and Commercial Development Corporation (ICDC) to enable it to meet its financial obligations to the RIVATEX [expansion unknown] company now being built. Essentially, the ICDC must buy back shares previously held in the company by Seditex and Associates. It should be recalled that in December, the Federal Republic of Germany already granted a loan of 102 million shillings to Kenya, in behalf of the Kenya Railways Corporation (KRC), to improve its telecommunications system (MARCHES, 26 December 1980, p 3548). [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1140] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris, 1981] 11,464

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MADAGASCAR

PETROLEUM RESEARCH PARTNERS CHOSEN

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 957

[Report: "Madagascar Is Choosing Petroleum Search Partners"]

[Text] Madagascar intends to become energy independent by 1984. This is one of the government's priorities. The National Military Office for Strategic Industries, familiarly known as Omnis, is the instrument through which this policy will be implemented.

It is recalled in Antananarivo that Omnis had launched a search for partners in petroleum research in 1980. As a result of this appeal, some twenty important companies submitted offers. They included Elf Aquitaine French and Agip Italian companies with which negotiations are apparently on their way. Let us also mention the American Occidental Petroleum, which sent a delegation to Madagascar to meet with Omnis' officials. We may assume, therefore, that in the next few months we shall find out what partners Madagascar has chosen for launching its petroleum research program.

Recently Omnis issued an "offer to interested companies" regarding a program for drilling and production in the Tsimiroro area, financed by the World Bank. Briefly, it is a question of the following: 1. supplying drilling equipment and related services for the drilling of ten 700-meter deep wells; 2. supplying logistic and support services for this equipment; and 3. supplying of the necessary material and offers for the operations mentioned. This is a partial and short description of requirements. The documents related to the offer will be made available at a later date.

Interested companies should write to the following Canadian office which acts as Omnis' engineering consultant and agent: D. and S. Energy Consultants, Ltd., Calgary, Canada; Telex: 03-824649.

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MADAGASCAR

BRIEFS

SERIOUS ANOMALIES AT FIFABE -- On 25 March President Didier Ratsiraka vigorously denounced the many anomalies noted in the management of Fifabe, the state-owned company, which is in charge of developing the rice growing areas in Betsiboka, Mahajanja Province. After an unannounced visit to the company's headquarters in Marovoay, during a work meeting which was radio broadcasted, the Chief of State announced that a shortage of 900 million Malagasy francs had been discovered in the company's books, along with many other anomalies such as padded rice transportation and handling costs, silting of dams and irrigation ditches caused by neglect, etc. Fifabe, whose task is to improve rice growing on an area of 20,000 hectares, has targeted the production of 55,000 tons of rice within the framework of the Malagasy policy of "all-out production." In conclusion, President Ratsiraka made the decision that, henceforth state-owned production companies will follow very strict directives regarding improvements in output, expansion of cultivated areas, the formulation of a "seed" policy and management reform. (Fifabe stands for Fikambanana Fampondrosoana ny Lemak'i Betsiboka, or Company for the Development of Betsiboka Plain.) [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 1981 p 957] COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 19817 5157

NEW FUEL PRICES—A new fuel price increase became effective in Madagascar on 3 March. Therefore, the price of high octare gasoline will jump substantially from 188 FMG per liter (the price set last November) to 285 FMG, or an increase of 97 FMG per liter; the price of regular gasoline will be raised from 171 to 270 FMG per liter (+ 99 FMG); the price of fuel oil will be raised from 90 to 127 FMG (+ 37 FMG). The price of gas for household use will also be raised sharply from 3400 to 4850 FMG per cylinder (+ 1450 FMG). Let us note that in some parts of the territory prices of regular gasoline have already reached 277 or 278 FMG per liter, while the price of fuel oil has reached 135 FMG. [Taxt] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 1981 p 957] /COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981 5157

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION DRIVE--As the members of AREMA (Vanguard of the Malagasy Revolution) had been informed, President Ratsiraka personally launched an "all-out production campaign" on 22 March. In Antananarivo the operation was started in Talala-Volonondry (25 kilometers north of the capital) with the planting of 6000 coffee bushes. Throughout the island, where AREMA has several hundred thousand members, other "community production projects" affecting export of food items were also launched. In his 22 March speech, President Ratsirake pointed out that Madagascar had earned only 110 billion Malagasy francs from exports, whereas the overall imports amounted to 154 billion, in accordance with an agreement recently concluded with the IMF (International Monetary Fu.d). The country will import 200,000 - 250,000 tons of rice in 1981 as against 130,000 tons in 1980, because of the drought. On the other hand, Mr. Ratsiraka announced that measures will be taken to reduce the repercussions of inflation. That is why fuel prices were substantially raised, and why the uninterrupted working day system will be adopted by all governmental services with a view to saving on hydrocarbon expenditures. Wages in the public and private sectors will be raised and so will prices paid agricultural producers. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 957] / COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981/7 5157

EXPANSION OF TOAMASINA REFINERY—The Malagasy Petroleum Company, SOLIMA, broke ground at the end of March for its second expansion of the Toamasina refinery. The project represents an investment of 5 billion Malagasy francs for the construction of a visbreaking plant, with a 165,000—ton per year capacity, and a road asphalt plant, with a 20,000—ton per year capacity. The French engineering company Litwin SA was given the contract. The expansion work will take about a year and the new plants should be operational in May 1982. By then SOLIMA will be able to produce, in addition to its present output and for the same amount of petrol, gas—oil (70,000 tons per year), gasoline, asphalt (20,000 tons per year up to 30,000 tons per year). The Toamasina plant's production figures for 1969 and 1980 are as follows: gasoline 122,000 m³, 129,000 m³, kerosene 60,800 m³, 60,700 m³; gas—oil 148,000 m³, 145,000 m³, itel—oil 255.000 m³, 166,500 m³, butane 8,900 m³, 11,900 m³. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Apr 81 p 1204] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981]

CHINESE COOPERATION—Led by Lou Shigao, vice president of the Chinese overseas association, a delegation has just concluded a visit aimed at strengthening Chinese-Malagasy cooperation. On this occasion, it was noted that Malagasy—Chinese medical, trade, economic, and cultural cooperation has increased since President Ratsiraka's visit of the PRC in 1976. Chinese medical personnel work at Mahitsy, Vatomandry, and Ambovombe-Androy and road-building specialists are in charge of modernizing National Route 2. The Chinese also granted, in 1972, the Malagasy a 2 billion Malagasy franc interest-free loan. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 24 Apr 81 p 1204] COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie Paris 1981/

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NIGER

BCEAO BULLETIN NOTES RECENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1132

[Text] The Central Bank of the West African States (BCEAO) has devoted a recent bulletin on economic and monetary statistics to Niger.

The 1979-1980 season was marked by another drop in peanut production. Some 2,172 tons of shelled peanuts were marketed (down 6,716 tons from the previous harvest). The cottonseed harvest supplied 3,428 tons (down 943 tons). On the other hand, food production: millet, sorghum and niebe, was up.

During the first three quarters of 1980, production of uranium ore amounted to 3,100 tons, all exported (32.9 billion CFA francs for the first 6 months).

During the first 9 months of 1980, traffic of the Joint Benin-Niger Railroad and Transport Organization (OCBN) amounted to 198,600 tons outbound (including 73,000 tons of oil products) and 8,300 tons inbound.

During the first 8 months of 1980, the Niamey International Airport had 3,503 flights of commercial aircraft and 76,300 passengers (arriving and departing).

At the end of September 1980, the merchandise turnover index for the main commercial establishments stood at 479 compared with 381.2 a year previously (on the basis of 100 for 1970).

On 31 December 1980, the general family consumer price index was 306.7, up slightly over the end of 1979, when it was 302.3 (on the basis of 100 for 1979).

The budget for the fiscal year from 1 October 1980 to 30 September 1981 was balanced at 80.6 billion CFA francs without any foreign contributions (up 8.5 billion over the preceding budget). Equipment expenditures were put at 26 billion CFA francs (no change) and service on the debt absorbed 8.7 billion CFA francs (up 4.5 billion).

By 30 September 1980, duties and taxes collected by the Customs Department totaled 23.1 billion CFA francs, 89 percent from imports.

By the end of December 1979, the outstanding foreign debt amounted to the exchange value of 54.8 billion CFA francs (up 12.3 billion during the year), with the still available margin using credits obtained totaling 53.1 billion CFA francs (up 10.6 billion).

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The volume of paper money in bills and legal tender was 31.1 billion CFA francs (up 5.5 billion in a year). Demand deposits in commercial banks totaled 24.4 billion CFA francs at the end of September 1980 (up .9 billion over the end of September 1979) and savings accounts and term deposits amounted to 16.7 billion CFA francs (up 8.7 billion). Credits to the economy amounted to 80.3 billion CFA francs (up 34 billion), the main users being wholesale commerce and transportation.

By 30 September 1980, the net position of the Treasury showed a debit of 11 billion CFA francs (down 6.2 billion compared with September 1979). Advances from the Central Bank totaled 10.3 billion (up 5.5 billion in a year).

Net foreign assets of the Central Bank represented an exchange value of 23.4 billion CFA francs at the end of September 1980 (up 5.5 billion over September 1979).

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BRIEFS

PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO NIAMEY DEPARTMENT -- From 24 to 27 March President Seyni Kountche made a trip through Niamey Department accompanied by three members of the Nigerien Government, Garba Sidikou (Higher Education and Research), Yahaya Tounkara (Waterworks) and Modieli Amadou (secretary of state in the Ministry of National Education). This visit provided the chief of state the chance to get an idea on the spot of the difficulties experienced by the local people, problems of food supplies, and water and sanitation rpoblems. During his stay Col Seyni Kountche visited the Lossa II development where he was filled in about a system of producing gas from grass left to ferment and then recovered in the form of fertilizer. The gas produced is used to run a motor which will make it possible to irrigate the Lossa II development. Among the government interventions asked for by the people in the economic area, the following might be noted: construction of a dispensary at In-Ates, the Anzourou development project, completing the Namarigoungou agricultural perimeter with its 1,550 hectares for 16,000 users, exploiting wildlife for tourism purposes, building a treatment plant to provide drinking water to the towns of Tillabery, establishing communication links with the Anzourou and In-Ates, and finishing up the stretch of road from Gabou to the Mali border. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRA-NEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 946] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris 1981] 9631

NIGER RIVER DEVELOPMENT FINANCING—A financing agreement concerning the Niger River model project was signed recently at the offices of the Niger River Basin Authority by the authority's executive secretary, Mr Traore, and the head of the French aid mission in Niamey, Mr Georges. This agreement involves 2 million French francs, or 100 million CFA francs. In addition, there was a second agreement for \$150,000 or 35.5 million CFA francs, which was signed by the FAO representative in Niger, Etienne Koudogbo, and the executive secretary of the Niger River Basin Authority. This agreement will make it possible to bring working methods up to date, to expand and the documentation center's activities, and to set up an information network among the Niger River Basin countries which will allow information and documents to circulate which are meant to be of service to the studies planned by the Niger River Basin Authority. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 946] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris 1981] 9631

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SENEGAL

DIOUF ANNOUNCES PS RENEWAL, STRENGTHENING OF INTERNAL DEMOCRACY

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 941

[Text] At the 28 March meeting in Dakar of the National Council of the Socialist Party, the party in power in Senegal, President Abdou Diouf made an announcement about party renewal and declared his intention to fight "personnel being imposed from above, corruption, opportunism and trading of favors" in the party's midst.

Senegal's chief of state also asserted that from now on he would do justice "to the individual votes of grass roots militants in order to allow them to choose their officials" and "to decide on the line of conduct to be adopted in the framework of the party program and party doctrine." "I will encourage the use of criticism and self-criticism as a weapon for identifying our errors and correcting them," he said.

According to Diouf, this strengthening of internal democracy is to allow the PS to "open its doors to all those who wish to have a share in its struggle for development." According to Diouf the planned party renewal in today's context of crisis is meant also to facilitate achieving the goals of Senegal's 1981-1985 plan, which he has characterized as "a realistic plan, expressing real capacities." This plan will spend 461 billion CFA francs (compared to 400 billion for the previous plan) and will encourage productive sectors, decentralization, and the creation of a substantial industrial network.

Diouf maintained that this renewal of the PS was also needed in order for the party to hold its own against competitors after the next constitutional revision which is going to permit the establishment of new parties alongside the four existing parties (Marxist, socialist, liberal and conservative).

Abdou Diouf was speaking before the National Council, the supreme authority of the PS between congresses, for the first time since he bacame president on 1 January and since he became secretary general of his party on 14 January after the resignation of Leopold Sedar Senghor.

In its final resolution the National Council approved President Diouf's entire initiative.

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SENEGAL

GENERAL GUIDELINES OF SIXTH PLAN RELEASED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 pp 1124-1125

[Text] On 28 March 1981, Louis Alexandrenne, Senegalese minister of planning and cooperation, presented the general guidelines of the Sixth Economic and Social Development Plan for 1981 to 1985 to the National Council of the Socialist Party of Senegal.

Senegal had a particularly difficult economic situation throughout 1980. Agricultural production, which determines the level of economic activity, was very mediocre. The industrial production index dropped from 157.8 at the end of June 1979 to 134.2 at the end of June 1980 and the price index rose from 317.8 at the end of September 1979 to 356.9 at the end of September 1980.

For the 1979-1980 agricultural season, the peaut harvest amounted to only 450,000 tons (compared with 900,000 tons for the previous harvest) and production of cottonseed totaled 28,000 tons (down 4,950 tons). The food crop deficit was put at some 180,000 tons. Only sugar cane, with 473,000 tons (up 106,000 tons) and tomatoes, with 60,000 tons, showed substantial growth.

Activity of the oilworks was particularly low: 45,000 tons of oil (down 83,000 tons) and 100,000 tons of oilcakes (down 132,000 tons). The processing of sugar cane supplied 38,000 tons (estimates for the 1980-1981 season are for 52,000 tons).

The rate of phosphate mining remained steady: 1.5 million tons of calcium phosphate. Exports had better prices: 14.5 billion CFA francs in receipts (up 1.5 billion).

Concerning the gross national product, the contribution of the primary sector is 28 percent; that of the secondary and tertiary sectors 26 and 46 percent respectively. Over 84 percent of the GNP is consumed, a situation which, combined with the continuing deficit in the trade balance, resulted in a reduction in the portion reserved for investments and the domestic savings potential, especially since the evolution of prices has an effect on the overall expansion of the economy. Despite the contribution from foreign assistance, the general balance of payments is negative every year.

The double commercial and budgetary deficit and the weakness of domestic savings force Senegal to resort more and more to foreign borrowing. As a result, in 1980,

the outstanding foreign debt amounted to the exchange value of 208 billion CFA francs, compared with 43 billion in 1973. Annual service on the debt has gone from 6 billion CFA francs for the 1974-1975 fiscal year to 41 billion for 1980-1981.

In addition, the growth in population has a definite impact on the economy. By 30 June 1981, Senegal will have 5.9 million inhabitants and with an annual increase of 2.6 percent, the Senegalese population will exceed 9.6 million by the year 2000.

Some 73.3 percent of the programmed actions, including 53 percent productive investments, of the Fifth Development Plan for 1976-1980 were carried out. Out of the 489.1 billion CFA francs in financing obtained, some 143.6 billion CFA francs in foreign financing were not used and are available for the Sixth Plan for 1981-1983.

Guidelines of Sixth Plan

The general guidelines of the Sixth Plan are based on the following considerations:

- 1) primary sector: gradual reabsorption of the food deficit by an increase in and diversification of agricultural food production; an increase in the income of the rural world through an intensification of export crops; development of the cooperative system and expansion of agricultural credit;
- 2) industrial sector: relaunching of industrial production through the promotion of private investment, particularly of small and medium-size enterprises, and faster incorporation of nationals into the management and ownership of enterprises; technical, economic and geographical integration of the industrial apparatus within the framework of regional structures;
- 3) tourist sector: diversification and regionalization of tourist activity; promotion of national tourism through the setting up of appropriate facilities;
- 4) infrastructures: maintenance of existing infrastructures; orientation of new investments toward operations to open up the country and support production; development of technical and professional training and rural education; improvement in the standard of living: environment, sanitation, water supply and housing;
- 5) studies and research: positive orientation of research toward the solving of economic, technical and social problems of development;
- 6) budgetary policy: attempt to balance the budget; increase in receipts for the national equipment budget; limited use of borrowing to cover future budgetary deficit; and
- 7) foreign trade: restoration of balanced trade through increased exports; simplification of administrative procedures; broadening of fiscal and customs incentives, aid in the form of credit, insurance and maritime transport in order to promote exports.

Within the framework of the economic policy thus defined, some measures will be taken: improved effectiveness of tax services; the abrogation of unjustified

exemptions; increased control over joint public and private enterprises; limitation of regular equipment expenditures to an increase of 10 percent per year; blockage until 1983 of foreign loans for any project not providing adequate resources to cover loan payments; limitation on the establishment of new joint public and private companies; regrouping in the parapublic sector and the study of reversions to the private sector; the signing of planning contracts between the government and the main establishments in the parapublic sector (stating objectives, limitations, investments and subsidies); periodic readjustment of the prices of different public services; gradual decrease in balancing subsidies to the public and parapublic sectors; improved profitability of the parapublic sector and the establishment of an average self-financing rate of 40 percent; increasing obligations of parapublic enterprises with respect to taxes and meeting repayment schedules for guaranteed or reconveyed loans; and accelerated liquidation of bankrupt organizations.

The overall mass of investments provided for under the Sixth Plan represents 462.4 billion CFA francs spread out over the four fiscal years from 1981-1982 to 1984-1985.

Financing of the plan is based on 132.4 billion CFA francs from domestic resources (including 64.1 billion from the National Investment Budget, 16.5 billion from regional budgets and collectives and 37.6 billion from the private sector) and on 330 billion in foreign resources, including 143.6 billion in financing already obtained under the Fifth Plan and now available and 186.4 billion in aid (loans and subsidies to be sought). During the plan, 50 billion CFA francs will be discounted and will have no effect on the foreign debt charge.

Sectorial Actions

By sector, the investments planned are distributed as follows (in billions of CFA francs):

Primary Sector Agriculture Livestock raising Fishing Forestry Rural, pastoral waterworks Agricultural waterworks	106.6 55.2 11 11.4 10.7
Secondary Sector Energy Industry and mining Handicrafts	151.8 25 123.6 3.2
Tertiary Sector Commerce Tourism Transportation, telecommunications	99.3 2 12.4 84.9

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Quaternary Sector City planning, environment Housing Water supply, sanitation Health	88.2 0.7 16 15 5
Education Human advancement Culture Youth and sports Information Studies and research	22.7 6.8 0.4 3 1.6
Administrative equipment Local Projects Total	7 16.5 642.4

Among the main actions to be waged during the Sixth Plan for 1981-1985 are:

Primary sector: the continuation of rural development, which will go from 17,600 to 25,800 hectares; the launching of work on the Diama and Manantali dams and construction of the Guidel and Bignona dams; initiation of the integrated development project for eastern Senegal and Upper Casamance; continuation of livestock raising development projects and the construction of regional slaughterhouses (Diourbel, Tambacounda, Zignuinchor, Louga and Kaolack); and the establishment of a maritime fund for fishing and assistance to cottage fishing.

Secondary sector: systematic continuation of energy conservation and the possibility of replacing fuel with coal at the Senegal Electric Company and the making of cement by SOCOCIM [West African Cement Company], priority to new projects that use little energy; relaunching of industrial production by reforming the Investment Code (institution of a bonus for added value as the main incentive, relaxation of conditions for approval), reworking of rules for the mobilization and use of the deduction on behalf of the equipment budget so as to restore its use as an incentive for reinvestment, the exemption of productive equipment from import restrictions, shortening of administrative delays and incentives for the establishment of industries outside the Cape Verde region; startup of the integrated SOTEXKA textile complex at Kaolack (cost: 10 billion CFA francs), whose production of T-shirts and shirts will be exported; the processing of phosphates, now exported without processing, turning them into fertilizer by the Chemical Industries of Senegal (investment put at 60 billion CFA francs); doubling of the cement production capacity of SOCOCIM (16 billion CFA francs); completion of the program of the Senegalese Sugar Company, increasing sugar production to 120,000 tons a year; continuing studies of the possibility of working the Faleme iron ore deposit, with actual mining beginning around the close of the Sixth Plan; and uranium prospecting by the French Atomic Energy Commission in eastern Senegal (with prospects of success).

Tertiary sector: maintenance of road system and supervision of vehicle loads in order to prevent the rapid ruination of paved roads; improvement in urban and interurban mass transit in order to reduce energy consumption; gradual replacement

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of railroad rolling stock and the development of mass transportation (passenger and freight over long distances); construction of infrastructures at the Dakar Port in order to effectively develop international maritime transit transport, development of Senegalese commercial ships so as to carry more and more imports and exports under the national flag and improved use of secondary ports; modernization of the air fleet and improvements in airport facilities and in the national telecommunications system; development of the Sali-Portudal tourist station on the Petite Cote (construction of five hotels or resorts) and construction of the Barachois-Novotel Hotel in Dakar (520 beds); construction of connecting roads and the strengthening of 200 kilometers of national roads; the purchase of 100 100-seat buses for SOTRAC [presumably Transit Company]; and replacement of track on the Tambacounda section and of the freight cars.

Social sector: construction of 2,000 "economical" classrooms for elementary schools, the establishment of technical schools (Diourbel, Kaolack and Ziguinchor) and the establishment of four professional training institutes; development of educational films; and construction of the Friendship Stadium and the equipping of departmental physical education and sports centers.

Anticipated Results

The share of productive investments programmed for the Sixth Plan is on the order of 63 percent. These actions will generate both jobs and tax income. They will also have a positive effect on the trade balance.

in the course of the period under the plan, the volume of gross permanent capital formed will not exceed 16 to 17 percent of the gross national product and the rate of economic growth will not exceed 4 percent annually on the whole.

In addition, since having recourse to foreign loans at high rates is excluded, the burden of the public debt will be maintained at a tolerable level.

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SENEGAL

SWEDISH OFFICIAL'S VISIT

Parts MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 941

[Text] At the end of March a Swedish delegation led by Hans Blix, the secretary of state for cooperation, visited Senegal. The delegation visited several development projects in the country's interior, in particular the following:

- The Dieri woodland-pasture land zone and the Niassante reforestation project in Dagana Department. With German financing this project is supplied by a 128-meter borehole and a set of motorpumps each pumping at a rate of 30 cubic meters per hour and providing an average of 600 cubic meters of water per day. However, there are nearly 10,000 head of livestock which makes it difficult to supply water since there is only enough for 5,000 head and 5,000 hectares.
- The Bandia eucalyptus-growing project. This bilateral project is being carried out by USAID and the Senegalese Government and when completed it will make it possible to cover an area of 6,000 hectares of tree groves, mainly eucalyptus, intended to supply the urban centers of Dakar and Thies with wood fuel.

The Bandia forest is classified as a preservation area and for a cost of 2 billion CFA francs its aim is to cover 3,000 hectares every 4 years. The first season has already made it possible to clear 150 planted hectares. The second, 1981, will involve 400 hectares.

Moussa Dieng, technical adviser to the secretary of state for waterworks, indicated to Mr Blix that the amount budgeted for water projects in the sixth plan might reach 80 billion CFA francs for boreholes, water supply points, and dams. However, in order to be really self-sufficient, Senegal will have to become reforested; the current year's objective is 10,000 hectares compared with 4,600 in the year just ended and 2,700 in 1979.

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SENEGAL

BRIEFS

DELEGATION TO FINLAND--On 26 March a Senegalese delegation led by Cheikh Amidou Kane, Senegal's minister of industrial development, completed a 3-day visit to Finland meant to strengthen economic cooperation between Finland and Senegal. The delegation had meetings with the Finnish minister of industry, Ulf Sundqvist. One of the main subjects touched on was the use of Senegalese peat and the possible participation of Finnish companies in projects in this area. [Test] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 pp 941, 142] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et cie., Paris 1981] 9631

MEAT IMPORTS—At a seminar on intensive livestock—raising, Senegal's secretary of state for scientific and technical research, Jacques Diouf, took stock of the live—stock and meat consumption situation in Senegal. Senegalese livestock is stagnating lowadays at around 2.5 million head, compared with 2.7 million in 1972, or about 1 for every two inhabitants. The main reasons for this stagnation are the drought and the perisitance of extensive livestock breeding. Even if the current level of meat consumption, around 12 kg per person per year, remains low, Senegal will have to import 25 percent of the meat it needs. In addition, the milk deficit requires substantial imports of milk products which leads to a foreign exchange outflow of more than 2.5 billion CFA francs per year. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 3 Apr 81 p 942] COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris 1981] 9631

DECREASED ENERGY USE--Senegal's energy consumption (gas, oil and derivatives) has dropped 3 percent thanks to an awareness campaign waged from June 1980 to January 1981. The Energy Directorate estimates that savings amount to some 2 billion CFA francs (23,573 tons). Before the campaign began, Senegal's consumption was increasing an average of 9 percent annually. Its oil bill totaled 50 billion CFA francs in 1979. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1123] [COPYRIGHT: Rene Moreux et Cie., Paris, 1981] 11,464

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TANZANIA

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT GRANTS AID FOR RICE PROJECT

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 17 Apr 81 p 1141

[Text] At the close of 1980, the African Development Fund (FAD) granted a loan amounting to 8 million Fund accounting units (UCF), or some 2.03 billion CFA francs, to finance a rice growing program using rain water.

The FAD has revealed the following details about the project, whose purpose is to increase rice production in Zanzibar sufficiently to provide for local consumption and therefore reduce the amount of money spent on rice imports. The project would also aid the Ministry of Agriculture in setting up and strengthening departments called upon to play an essential role in the success of programs or projects aimed at developing rice growing, improve the standard of living of farm families associated with the project, who will have higher incomes thanks to improved yields, create jobs in rural areas and help the rural people to acquire modern techniques.

The project consists of instituting improved rice growing techniques using rain on 5,800 hectares of land already devoted to paddy rice (4,600 hectares in Zanzibar and 1,200 hectares in Pemba) and of providing farmers with the means of production and the services that will help them to cultivate their fields in a more effective manner. There will be one rice crop during the rainy season (masika), followed by a variety of bean during the short rainy season (vuli) on 65 percent of the land (3,770 hectares). The project includes the establishment of four service centers for the planters (three in Zanzibar and one in Pemba) and the establishment of a headquarters at Kizimbani. Some 11,660 farm families will be involved in the execution of the project.

The estimated cost of the project is 8,986,000,000 Fund accounting units, including 7,163,000,000 for costs in foreign exchange and 1,823,000,000 for costs in local currency. The project will be financed by the FAD and the Zanzihar Government. The FAD loan will serve to finance 100 percent of the foreign exchange costs and 44 percent of the costs in local currency of all elements of the project, or 88.5 percent of the total cost of the project. The project will be under the Ministry of Agriculture of Zanzibar. It will begin in July 1981 and will be spread out over 5 years.

Purchase of goods and services will be the task of the Rice Growing Development Cell (CDR), which will act in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture of

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Zanzibar. The recruiting of technical assistants and accounting consultants will be done on the international market, through a call for bids in keeping with FAD directives. Supply contracts for agricultural machinery and equipment, tools for the central workshop, vehicles, motorcycles and bicycles, engines and pesticides will be approved following an international call for bids, in accordance with FAD rules.

The African Development Bank (BAD) group has not yet financed any project in Zanzibar, but it has been active in continental Tanzania. The FAD has already granted six loans totaling 41.6 million Fund accounting units. For its part, the BAD has financed seven projects for a total commitment of 41 million accounting units.

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TOGO

BRIEFS

ATTACKS ON FRENCH ESTABLISHMENTS--Bombs destroyed several vehicles parked in front of the cultural center [in Lome on 13 April 1981]. Elsewhere a fire caused damages to the Cercle de l'Union where the French community regularly gathers. [Text] [Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE in French 6 May 81 p 19] [COPYRIGHT: Jeune Afrique GRUPJIA 1981]

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